ASEF brought together fifty high level Asian and European participants from the worlds of politics, media, academia and business to engage in a frank and collegial dialogue on "Asia and Europe at the New Millennium".

The two-day Forum in Singapore gave participants an opportunity to discuss the state of Asia's economy and the impact of the economic crisis on Asia's political landscape.

It also provided an opportunity to discuss the launch of the Euro, the European Union's further enlargement and integration and its ambition to develop a common foreign and security policy.

The Forum was divided into three sessions with the following foci: Asian Post-Crisis: Economic Recovery and Political Landscape, Europe's Economic Prospects and Foreign Policy and Towards a Knowledge-Based Economy in the 21st Century.

Presenters included Ambassador Camilo Barcia, Director of Cabinet Planning of Foreign Policy at the Spanish Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Mr Erik Izraelewicz, Editor of Les Echos, Hon Fidel V Ramos, Chairman of Ramos Peace and Development Foundation and former President of the Philippines, Dr Tan Chin Nam, Permanent Secretary at the Singapore Ministry of Manpower and Chairman of the National Library Board, and Mr Wolfgang Ischinger, State Secretary at the German Foreign Ministry.

Singapore's Minister for Law and Minister for Foreign Affairs, Professor S Jayakumar gave the keynote address at the opening night dinner.

Europe Asia Forum 2000 is the third in the series. The first Europe Asia Forum was held in Singapore in 1998 and the second was in Munich, Germany in 1999. Europe Asia Forum 2000 was organised by ASEF, Herbert Quandt Stiftung (The Foundation of BMW AG) and the Institute of Policy Studies.

To view papers presented at the Forum, visit http://www.asef.org
EMU Roadshow: Third Stop

3 March 2000
Beijing, China

Beijing was the third stop of the ASEF’s EMU Roadshow.

The guest speaker was Mr Jean Lemierre, President of the Economic and Financial Committee of the European Union, and Head of the French Treasury. Mr Lemierre spoke on "Lessons drawn from the European economic and monetary integration experience and their possible implications for Asia".

Reaction to his speech was provided by Mr Zhu Guangya, Director-General of International Affairs at the Chinese Ministry of Finance, and by Mr Wang Luolin, Vice-President of the Chinese Academy of Social Sciences.

The event attracted an audience of approximately 350, mainly from the worlds of finance, commerce (including members of the European Chamber of Commerce) and from the diplomatic and intellectual communities in Beijing.

The ASEF EMU Roadshow: Third Stop is co-organised by France's Ministry of Finance (Beijing office), China's Ministry of Finance, Chinese Academy of Social Sciences and the European Chamber of Commerce in Beijing.

(L-R) Pierre Burroux, ASEF Deputy Executive Director and Jean Lemierre, President of the Economic & Financial Committee of the European Union & Head of French Treasury.

For more information, please contact Mr Duncan Jackman at dhjackman@asef.org.

"Globalisation Post-Seattle: Prospects for Closer EU-East Asia Economic Linkages"

This public lecture was presented jointly by ASEF and the Chambers of Commerce of the Member Countries of the European Union in Singapore. Mr Francois Huwart, Minister of State for External Trade, Government of France spoke on "Globalisation Post-Seattle: Prospects for Closer EU-East Asia Economic Linkages".

Mr Huwart's talk was particularly pertinent in light of the failure of the Seattle WTO Conference to launch the new millennium round. As France will take over the Presidency of the EU for the second half of this year, when the third Asia-Europe Meeting (ASEM) is scheduled to take place in Seoul, Korea, Mr Huwart focused his talk on possible trade issues for the ASEM 3 agenda. He also spoke on how Europe and Asia could build closer economic ties and contribute to the building of a globalised world.

The lecture was attended by 200 people from the media, diplomatic missions in Singapore, businesses and think-tanks.
The workshop gave participants an opportunity to explore ways in which Asian and European publishers and copyright agents could work together to improve the flow of books between the two regions.

The three-day event was organised by ASEF, with the support of CITIC Patent Agency (China), the Publishers Association (United Kingdom), The Book Development Association (The Philippines), The Department of Intellectual Property, Ministry of Commerce (Thailand) and the Goethe Institute in Beijing, German Book Information Center (Germany).

Seventy participants from 15 ASEM member countries attended the workshop. The workshop was co-chaired by Mr Ian Taylor, Director, British Publishing Association and Mr Wang Zhiwei, Executive Vice-President, CITIC, Patent Agency.

During the sessions, participants discussed the needs and problems pertaining to book exchange between Asia and Europe as well as possible ways of cooperation in view of these differences.

Speakers included Ms Carole Blake from Blake Friedmann Literary Agency (UK), Mr Peter Gutmann from Bertelsmann (Germany), Mr Lirio P Sandoval from the Book Development Association of Philippines and Ms Zhang Zie, a well-known Chinese writer.

The workshop contributed to the creation of a network of exchange and information of about 60 European and Asian representatives of publishing houses and copyright agencies.

ASEF is proud to have contributed to this initiative and will continue to play a role in promoting the flow of books between Asia and Europe.

For more information, please contact Mr Cai Rongsheng at rscai@asef.org. To read about one participant’s account of the workshop, please visit http://www.asef.org.

Following on the success of the first YPM in the Philippines in 1998, ASEF organised the second in Portugal. The second YPM was attended by 41 young parliamentarians from 20 ASEM member countries and the European Parliament.

Professor Richard Higgott, Director, Centre for Globalisation Studies at Warwick University in the United Kingdom gave a presentation on the "Welfare State and Globalisation", which provided participants with much food for thought in their working groups.

The working groups also proved to be an excellent medium for networking between the young Asians and European legislators.

The second ASEF YPM was co-organised with the Orient Foundation and supported by the Portuguese Parliament.

For more information, please contact Mr Ulrich Niemann at uniemann@asef.org
ASEF's Governor for Luxembourg and Immediate past Chairman of the Board of Governors, Mr Edmond Israel, had the idea of launching a series of international conferences under the general rubric "New Thinking for a New Millennium" to unite Asia and Europe in reflection of one of the key issues which we face - education. For the first conference, ASEF decided to focus on the implications of the so-called knowledge-based economy on education.

On 2-3 May 2000, 92 participants from some 22 of the ASEM member countries gathered to discuss "Education in the Knowledge-Based Economy". The venue was the Hotel Le Royal in Luxembourg.

The meeting drew upon three particular communities: the policy-makers, the knowledge-intensive industries, and academics. The conference was opened by the Prime Minister of Luxembourg, Mr Jean-Claude Juncker. The world of policy was represented by the European Commissioner for Education and Culture, Ms Viviane Reding, and by the Education Ministers of China, Ms Chen Jili and of Luxembourg, Ms Hennicott-Schoepges and Ms Brasseur.

The concerns of employers and of industry were expressed by participants from the media, biotechnology, Internet and distance education, and manufacturing industry. The intellectual viewpoint was given by university presidents and distinguished scientists.

These rich contributions gave rise to lively debate amongst the participants who, because of their diverse international and professional backgrounds, brought differing experiences and perspectives to the subject matter. All agreed that the conference was a timely and catalytic contribution to a new debate, and we expect to continue the debate in a short follow-up series of international conferences, based upon a workshop approach, and each on a specific sub-theme.

The Foundation is grateful to the Government of Luxembourg for its patronage and the Ministry of Culture, Higher Education and Research for its partnership. We also acknowledge the financial support of Clearstream International, and of the European Commission.

For more information, please contact Mr Duncan Jackman at dhjackman@asef.org.
The Asia-Europe Youth Forum brought together 38 participants from youth organisations from Asia and Europe to discuss areas for closer co-operation in the future.

The Forum was organised by the Asia-Europe Foundation (ASEF) with the support of the European Youth Forum (YFJ), the Asian Youth Council (AYC) and the Asian Students Association (ASA).

At the Forum, the Working Group on Asia-Europe Youth Co-operation (AEYC) was formed to create a network to enhance information exchange and co-operation. The Forum also discussed proposals for future Asia-Europe youth activities and identified partners for future youth co-operation.

The participants were asked to promote increased youth exchanges between Asia and Europe by facilitating participation of young people in joint youth programmes, through the elimination of obstacles which are hindering mobility, and by supporting youth projects through the allocation of necessary resources, while respecting independent initiatives of the youth organisations.

For more information, please e-mail Mr Andreas Sieren at andisieren@asef.org.
The Role of the Individual vis-à-vis the Family, Society and State in Asia and Europe

18 – 19 September 2000
Vienna, Austria

The Role of the Individual is an international symposium co-organised by the Ludwig Boltzmann Institut in Vienna, the Asia-Europe Foundation (ASEF) and supported by the City of Vienna. It aims to bring together intellectuals from ASEM member countries to discuss philosophical concepts and issues pertaining to the role of the individual in the family, state and society in the context of both Asia and Europe.

There are no fees to attend the event but participants will have to bear the costs of their own transport and accommodation. Meals during the Conference will be provided by the organisers. Interested persons from ASEM member countries are strongly encouraged to apply.

Conference Secretariat:
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Visit by European Parliamentary Delegation

On 24 May 2000, nine members from the European Parliament visited ASEF. The delegation for Relations with the Member States of ASEAN, South East Asia and the Republic of Korea was led by MEP (Portugal) Mr Carlos Costa Neves.